# Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# 222 ST2STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

Washington, D. C.

SS-176

July 18, 1957

# Crop Prospects Lowered by Spring Reverses

Crops in important areas haven't done as well as expected, and as of July 1 this year's total crop output seemed likely to be the smallest since 1951. Crop Reporting Board points to the possibility of some improvement but indicates that the spring reverses have lowered chances for matching last year's record high per-acre yields.

Prospects for corn, cotton, and other crops have been retarded or reduced by lateness and poor stands, and harvesting delays forced by wet weather have cut the yields of many early ripening fall grain fields. Large acreages which might have been planted to wheat, cotton, and other crops were not planted because of drought or Soil Bank inducements.

#### Wheat Indicated at 940 Million Bushels<sup>1</sup>

Production of all wheat, is now forecast at 940 million bushels. This is 31 million bushels below the estimate last month and would compare with 997 million bushels produced last year and well over a billion bushels 10-year average. Winter wheat is indicated at 715 million bushels compared with 735 million in 1956. All spring wheat is forecast at 225 million compared with 262 million bushels produced last year.

# Below Average Corn Crop

Corn crop indicated at 3 billion bushels is 13 percent under last year and 3 percent below average. Such production would be the lowest since 1951. Decline is largely attributed to acreage placed in the Soil Bank in the commercial area, to wet fields at planting time in many areas, and a trend toward lower acreage in most sections outside the main Corn Belt.

# Big Crop of Oats

Oats, now expected to total 1,374 million bushels, would top last years small crop by 19 percent and be 4 percent above average. Favorable growing conditions in important spring oats States.

# Smaller Wheat Stocks on Farms

The 59.5 million bushels of old wheat carried over on farms is 11 percent below a year ago and compares with the average carry-over of 67.2 million bushels.

#### Other Stocks on Farms July 1

Corn stocks, estimated at 1,118 million bushels, are 13 percent larger than a year ago and 37 percent above average.

Oats stocks, at 192 million bushels, are down from a year ago by 29 percent and the lowest for July 1 since 1950.

<sup>1</sup>Estimates in this publication are based on condition to July 1.

Soybean stocks, at 36.7 million bushels are highest of record. Previous high, July 1, 1955-32.8 million; year ago, only 7.2 million, an extremely low level.

Barley stocks (old crop) at 41.5 million bushels, are 5 percent larger than a year ago and 13 percent above average.

Rye stocks (old crop), at 2,066,000 bushels, are 12 percent below a year ago and 2 percent below average.

Flaxseed stocks (old crop) at 2.6 million bushels, are more than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times the year-ago carryover and about the same as the 1948-55 average.

# Big Acreage in Sorghums

Estimated 25.6 million acres of sorghum to be harvested for all purposes would top last year by 49 percent and would exceed previous record high acreage in 1955 by 23 percent.

# Record Acreage in Soybeans

Soybean acreage (planted alone for all purposes) estimated at 22.6 million acres, is about 3 percent

#### Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Avera rece far	Effective parity prices	
	May 15 1957	June 15 1957	June 1957
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.) ct.	31.47	31.89	37.06
Wheat (bu.)dol.	1.98	1.91	2,51
Rice (100 lb.) dol.	4.82	4.84	5.77
Corn (bu.) dol.	1.23	1.22	1.82
Peanuts (lb.) ct.	11.2	10.9	13,7
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Butterfat in cream (lb.) ct.	59.0	58.9	74.3
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.) dol.	3.85	1 3.84	4.82
Wool (lb.)cta	<sup>2</sup> 55.2	<sup>2</sup> 56.4	65.4
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.)dol.	.956	.881	1.36
Cottonseed (ton)dol.			71.90
Flaxseed (bu.) dol.	2.79	2.72	4.56
Hay, baled (ton) dol.	20.10	18.60	24.90
Oats (bu.)dol.	.703	.661	.876
Potatoes (cwt.) dol.	1.36	1.27	2.46
Rye (bu.) dol.	1.05	1.04	1.68
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.) dol.	1.99	1.89	2,66
Soybeans (bu.)dol.	2.23	2.18	3.02
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.) dol.	5.54	5.60	5,24
Oranges, on tree (box)dol.	1.54	1.33	2,59
Apples, for fresh use (bu.) dol.	4.35	4.72	2.89
Beef cattle (100 lb.) dol.	17.50	17.70	22,40
Calves (100 lb.) dol.	18.60	18.90	24.60
Hogs (100 lb.)dol.	17.20	18.40	21.90
Lambs (100 lb.) dol.	20.60	20.10	24.90
Chickens, all (lb.) ct.	18.4 29.0	19.4	28.6
Eggs (dozen) ct.	29.0	29.0	48.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Preliminary,

 $<sup>^{2}\,\</sup>mathrm{Does}$  not include incentive payment to bring season average return to 62 cents per pound.

above the record acreage planted last year. Production estimate will be made in August.

# Record Production of Barley

Estimated 439-million-bushel crop of barley would be record high -- tops last year by 18 percent and the 10-year average by 51 percent.

# More Rye, Slightly Less Flaxseed

Rye crop, now indicated at 26.5 million bushels, would be about 23 percent larger than last year and 20 percent above average. Yield, at 15.4 bushels per acre, would be highest of record.

Flaxseed production, at 47.4 million bushels, would be down 3 percent from last year but nearly a fourth larger than the 1946-55 average. Decrease from last year is due to smaller acreage for harvest ... yields indicated good.

#### Big Hay Crop, Good Pastures

Hay production, forecast at 119.6 million tons, is an all-time record, 10 percent above 1956 and 15 percent more than average. Weather was generally favorable to pastures. July 1 condition, at 90 percent of normal, except for 1951 was the highest in 10 years ... A few dry spots, however.

# Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	JanMay 1956	JanMay 1957	
Dairy Production				
Milk  Evaporated whole milk  Dry nonfat milk solids	Bil. lb. Mil. lb.	<sup>1</sup> 66.8 1085	<sup>1</sup> 67.3 1117	
(for human food)	Mil. lb. Mil. lb. Mil. lb. Mil. gal.	731 643 427 251	755 642 442 250	
Poultry Production				
Poultry meat <sup>2</sup>	Billions Mil. lb. Mil. lb. Mil. lb. Mil. lb. Mil. lb. Millions Millions Millions Millions	1 32.2 1471 81.7 280 11.2 218 11.349 1774 162.7 19.2	1 32.7 1620 85.9 283 15.6 206 11,265 1799 165.3 1 8.8	
Meat Production 2 (dressed weight)				
Beef  Veal  Pork  Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb. Mil. lb. Mil. lb. Mil. lb.	5,765 571 4,523 315	5,788 575 4,093 305	
Total red meat	Mil. lb.	11,174	10,761	
Slaughter <sup>2</sup>				
Cattle Calves Hogs Sheep and lambs	1,000 head 1,000 head 1,000 head 1,000 head	10,615 4,873 34,779 6,637	10,790 4,918 31,104 6,352	

<sup>1</sup> January-June

#### <sup>2</sup> Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

# Dry Peas and Beans, Smaller Crops

Production of dry peas, at 3.1 million bags (100 pounds cleaned basis), is a third less than last year's large crop and down from average by about 13 percent. Small acreage this year for harvest. Dry beans, at 16.7 million bags would be 3 percent below the 1956 crop but a little above average.

# Smaller Crop of Rice

Indicated 38.9 million bags (100 lb.) of rice would be about 18 percent less than the 1956 production and the smallest crop since 1950. Reduced acreage brought about by Soil Bank.

# Big Crop of Bluegrass Seed

This year's production of Kentucky-bluegrass seed is forecast by the Crop Reporting Board at 52.6 million pounds (3.8 million bushels) of cured seed...more than double last year's small crop.

# Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1956		1957		
A00111		Yr.	Apr.	Мау	June
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) 1	58.6	58.4	58.5	58.5	59.0
Farm employment	8.9	7.9	7.4	8.2	8.8
Family	6.5	6.0	5.9	6.3	6.3
Hired	2.4	1.9	1.5	1.9	2.5
	Index numbers (1947-49=100)			=100)	
Industrial production <sup>2</sup>	141	143	143	143	143
Total personal income payments <sup>3</sup>	161	161	168	168	1-10
Weekly factory earnings <sup>4</sup>	158	161	162	161	163
Average earnings of factory workers, per	100	101	102	101	100
worker <sup>4</sup>	150	151	154	154	156
Wholesale prices, all commodities <sup>4</sup>	114	114	117	117	117
Farm commodities	91	88	91	90	91
Food, processed	102	102	104	105	106
Consumer price index <sup>4</sup>	116	116	119	120	
Food	113	112	113	115	
	Index numbers (1910-14=		=100)		
Prices received by farmers	245	235	242	<b>2</b> 43	244
	261	240	242	244	241
Crops	219	224	233	225	218
Food grains	192	185	180	179	173
Feed grains and hay		268	258	266	270
Cotton.	273			457	
Tobacco	453	453	459		457 260
Oil bearing crops	259	250	264	263	246
Fruit	261	219	237	228	
Vegetables for fresh market	290	247	294	315	283
Livestock and products	231	230	242	241 278	245 287
Meat animals	251	238	275		
Dairy products	245	259	253	248	247
Poultry and eggs	172	177	150	144	145
Prices paid by farmers:				270	0.70
All commodities	264	264	273	273	273
Used in living	280	278	285	286	287
Used in production	248	249	260	259	257
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage		000	200	200	600
rates (parity index)	286	286	296	296	296
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted	538	536	562	562	562
Parity ratio (prices received to parity					
index)	86 1	82	82	82	82

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of the Census.

<sup>3</sup> By commercial hatcheries.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Department of Commerce.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Federal Reserve Board.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# Cotton Acreage Down 15 Percent

Cotton acreage, estimated July 1 at 14,224,000 cultivated acres, is down from year ago by 15 percent. Acreage in cultivation July 1, 1956 was 16,833,000 acres; 1946-55 average, 22,743,000.

#### Tobacco Crop Smaller By a Fourth

Total tobacco production is forecast at 1,661 million pounds, down nearly a fourth from last year and the smallest crop since 1943. Acreage, 1,128,300 acres, down 17 percent from last year.

Flue-cured, forecast at 963 million pounds, is down 32 percent from 1956 production; acreage is down 24 percent from last year. Burley crop, estimated at 490 million pounds, is about 3 percent below last year's production; acreage about 306,400 acres compared with 309,800 harvested last year. Maryland, type 32, production indicated at 34.1 million pounds would compare with 38.5 million produced last year; acreage, at 39,000 acres, is 5,000 acres below that harvested in 1956. Fire-cured tobacco, at 50.3 million pounds, is 29 percent less than harvested in 1956. Dark air-cured, forecast at 24.4 million pounds, is down from last year by 28 percent. Fire-cured and dark air-cured acreages are down 20 and 17 percent, respectively.

# 1 Percent More Milk and Eggs

The 12.7 billion pounds of milk produced on U. S. farms in June exceeded the production a year earlier by 1 percent. Hens laid 5,038 million eggs in June, topping a year earlier by 1 percent.

# Peanut Acreage About Same as 1956

Acreage of peanuts planted alone for all purposes is estimated at 1,832,000 acres, down less than 1 percent from the 1,840,000 acres in 1956. 10-year average is 2,705,000 acres.

#### Fruit Crop Summary

Deciduous fruits produced this year will be about the same as last year and I percent below average. Prospects for apples, pears, and sour cherries are better than for both last year and average. Peach and plum crops for the U. S. as a whole, are expected to be smaller than in 1956 but above average; sweet cherry and apricot crops larger than last year but below average. Indicated production of grapes and prunes is below both last year and average.

Orange production for the 1956-57 season (including tangerines) is slightly below last season but above average. Lemons and limes each show increases over both last year and average. Grapefruit production is 2 percent below last season and 8 percent below average.

#### Smaller Crops of Summer Potatoes

Production of early summer potatoes, forecast at 9.4 million hundredweight, will be about 1 percent below the 1956 crop and 5 percent below average. Late summer crop, at 31.2 million cwt, is down from a year ago by 8 percent and down from average by 5 percent.

#### 8 Percent More Cattle on Feed

The 3.7 million head of cattle and calves on feed July 1, in 13 major feeding states, topped a year earlier by 8 percent. Number on feed over 3 months was up 12 percent while the number on feed less than 3 months was up 3 percent.

#### **CURRENT ESTIMATES**

# Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings, by States. May 1957

by States, May 1957						
State	Livestock and products	Crops	Total			
•	1,000	1,000	1,000			
	dollars	dollars	dollars			
Maine	8,672	3,996	12,668			
New Hampshire	4,522	812	5,334			
Vermont	8,333	1,405	9,738			
Massachusetts	9,390	3,820	13,210			
Rhode Island	1,173	336	1,509			
Connecticut	8,541	4,887	13,428 59,196			
New York	49,042	10,154	27,239			
New Jersey	15,836 49,655	11,403 11,423	61,078			
Pennsylvania	155,164	48,236	203,400			
Ohio	55,122	18,831	73,953			
Indiana	53,923	18,845	72,768			
Illinois	99,037	52,435	151,472			
Michigan	36,570	9,553	46,123			
Wisconsin	85,110	4,969	90,079			
East North Central	329,762	104,633	434,395			
Minnesota	81,050	19,085	100,135			
Iowa	148,643	17,262	165,905			
Missouri	66,978	7,784	74,762			
North Dakota	11,062	20,461	31,523			
South Dakota	27,207	4,331	31,538			
Nebraska	55,473	5,548	61,021			
Kansas	43,766	5,986	49,752			
West North Central	434,179	80,457	514,636			
Delaware	6,757	3,371	10,128			
Maryland	14,242	11,689	25,931 25,645			
Virginia West Virginia	19,834	5,811 891	7,694			
North Carolina	6, <b>8</b> 03 <b>21,</b> 599	11,974	33,573			
South Carolina	7,357	7,336	14,693			
Georgia	28,326	8,959	37,285			
Florida	13,746	65,541	79,287			
South Atlantic	118,664	115,572	234,236			
Kentucky	25,297	4,008	29,305			
Tennessee	22,127	7,720	29,847			
Alabama	19,940	8,545	<b>28,</b> 485			
Mississippi	15,630	6,972	22,602			
Arkansas	16,640	9,776	26,416			
Louisiana	10,580	6,263	16,843			
Oklahoma	27,053	11,364	38,417			
Texas	81,494	16,118	97,612			
South Central	218,761	70,766	289,527			
Montana	8,342	9,373	17,715 16,618			
Idaho	13,660	2,958	6.284			
WyomingColorado	6,041 26,790	243 2,277	29,067			
New Mexico	8,442	1,227	9,669			
Arizona	11,962	10,100	22,062			
Utah	9,145	1,022	10,167			
Nevada	2,055	116	2,171			
Washington	18,463	12,466	30,929			
Oregon	13,875	6,025	19,900			
California	94,699	100,938	195,637			
Western	213,474	146,745	360,219			
United States	1,470,004	566,409	2,036,413			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

# Index Numbers of Total Farm Output, Gross Production of Livestock and Crops, and Related Indexes, United States<sup>1</sup>

Item	1954-56	1956	Indicated 1957 <sup>2</sup>
Farm output	111 120 104	113 122 106	108 121 99
mules 3	43	39	35
Cropland used	99	98	95
Cropland production per acre4	105	107	104
Animal units of breeding livestock $^{5}$	105	104	103
Livestock production per breeding unit 5	114	117	117

Prepared jointly by the Agricultural Research Service and Agricultural Marketing Service.

# Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Marketing Margin and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and	Retail	Farm	Marketing	Farmer's share
month	cost <sup>1</sup>	value <sup>2</sup>	margin	
1956 average	\$ 976	\$390	\$ 586	40%
	968	396	572	41
	995	394	601	40
	1,002	390	612	39

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Cash Receipts from Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States 1

	May 195 <b>7</b>	June 1957 <sup>2</sup>
CASH RECEIPTS:	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.
Total marketings and CCC loans <sup>3</sup>	2,036	2,100
Livestock and products  Meat animals  Dairy products.  Poultry and eggs  Other	1,470 759 433 232 46	1,300
Crops	566 48 126 17 49 13 123 86 104 21	800
	1947-49 = 100	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:		
All commodities  Livestock and products  Crops	96 132 49	98 120 70

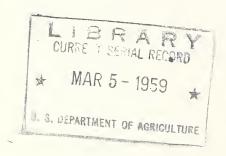
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation, <sup>2</sup>Preliminary, <sup>3</sup>Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month,

# More Summer Vegetables.

Total production of summer vegetables and melons is indicated about 2 percent above the 1956 production due largely to increased acreage.

#### Farm Wage Rates Continue to Climb

Now at an all time high, farm wage rates average 3 percent higher than a year ago, for the country as a whole. Details on farm wages and farm employment will be found in Farm Labor report issued July 10 by AMS, USDA.



 $<sup>^1\</sup>mathrm{For}$  historical data and explanation of indexes, see "Changes in Farm Production and Efficiency," ARS, 43-55.

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  Indications for 1957 based on July 1957, ''Crop Production'' report and other releases of the Agricultural Estimates Division, AMS.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Hay and concentrates only. Not included in farm output.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Index of crop production per acre is a ratio of total crop production to total land used for crops. It differs from the AMS index of yields per harvested acre of 28 crops.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Animal units and production exclude horses and mules.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

For comparisons with earlier months and years see The Marketing and Transportation Situation.